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From:

Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2008 3:30 pm

To: Cc:

Subject: The answer to your question

We understand the facts to be as follows:

As of the close of business on December 30 , Corp A and Corp B were the common parents of their respective consolidated groups for the consolidated tax year. At 11:59 PM, on December 31 , Corp A merged into Corp B. You asked whether the Corp A subsidiaries are members of the Corp B and Subsidiaries consolidated group at any time on December 31 , for purposes of including them in a statutory notice of deficiency for the Corp B and Subsidiaries consolidated group with respect to the group's consolidated return year ended on December 31 .

The governing authority is Treas. Reg. § 1.1502-76(b)(1)(ii), which provides, in part, that a departing or joining member is deemed to have departed or joined a consolidated group as of the close of the day during which the event that causes the departure or entry occurs. Therefore, the first day of a joining member's consolidated return year is the day <u>after</u> the day on which the event causing the entry of the new member occurs. This current rule might be called the "midnight rule."

Here, Corp A's merger into Corp B is the event that caused the entry of the former members of the Corp A consolidated group into the Corp B and Subsidiaries consolidated group. Although Corp A merged out of existence 1 minute before midnight, the consolidated return regulations ignore this one minute prior to midnight and deem the Corp A consolidated group members as joining in the filing of a consolidated return with Corp B on January 1

Answer: No former members of the Corp A and Subsidiaries consolidated group should be listed with the members of the Corp B and Subsidiaries consolidated group in the statutory notice of deficiency with respect to the latter's consolidated return year.